

IN THE CLAIMS

The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:

1. (*Currently Amended*) A speaker system comprising:

a speaker array including a plurality of speakers ~~which are~~ arranged into a matrix; and
 a sound signal processing unit that divides a sound source into a plurality of frequency bands and divides the speaker array into a plurality corresponding number of reproduction regions ~~so as to allocate the frequency bands to the divided reproduction regions, respectively,~~
wherein the number of speakers allocated to each of the reproduction regions is different, and

wherein the frequency band of with a highest passing frequency being is allocated to a smallest one of the reproduction region[s] with a smallest number of speakers.

2. (*Currently Amended*) The speaker system according to Claim 1, wherein:

the sound signal processing unit ~~sets regions which reproduce~~ divides the speaker array into left and right reproduction regions for reproducing a left channel and a right channel of a stereo sound source or surround sound source ~~such that,~~

~~a reproduction bands the left and right reproduction regions having the frequency band with a lowest passing frequency are located at a central portion of the speaker array,~~

the left and right reproduction regions having the frequency band with the highest passing frequency are located at ~~increases from a central portion toward opposite end portions of the speaker array with, and~~

the number of speakers allocated to the left and right reproduction regions decreases ~~decreasing as the reproduction the passing frequency of the frequency band increases.~~

3. (*Currently Amended*) The speaker system according to Claim 2, wherein the sound signal processing unit implements a signal processing ~~in such a manner so~~ that a sound signal of a center channel of the stereo sound source or surround sound source becomes non-directional.

4. (*Currently Amended*) The speaker system according to Claim 2, wherein:

the sound signal processing unit ~~sets a region which~~ left and right center channel reproduction regions that reproduces the a center channel of the stereo sound source or surround sound source ~~such that a reproduction,~~

the left and right center channel reproduction regions having the frequency band with the highest passing frequency are located at a central region of the speaker array,

the left and right center channel reproduction regions having the frequency band with the lowest passing frequency are positioned farthest away from the left and right center channel reproduction regions having the frequency band with the highest passing frequency-band-
increases from the opposite end portions to the central portion with, and

the number of speakers allocated to the left and right center channel reproduction regions decreases decreasing as the reproduction passing frequency of the frequency band increases.

5. (*Currently Amended*) A speaker system comprising:

a speaker array including a plurality of speakers ~~which are~~ arranged into a matrix; and
unit a plurality of speaker driving circuits provided to correspond to each for driving one
of the speakers individually, and

wherein each of the speaker driving circuits has having a primary filter ~~which that~~ filters
 sound signals of left and right channels of a stereo sound source or surround sound source, and

wherein a passable passing frequency band permitted to pass in each of the primary
filter of each of the unit speaker circuits is set so as to increase from the speakers positioned at
opposite end portions of the speaker array to the speaker or speakers positioned at a central
portion of the speaker array.

6. (*Currently Amended*) The speaker system according to Claim 5, wherein the passing
frequency band of the primary filter is divided into a high frequency band, a medium frequency
band, and a low frequency band, and the number of the unit speaker driving circuits having the
filter of set to pass the high frequency band is made smaller than the number of those unit the
speaker driving circuits having filters of set to pass the other frequencies low or medium
frequency band.

7. (*Currently Amended*) The speaker system according to Claim 5, wherein the passing
frequency band of the primary filter increases from the speaker or speakers positioned at the
central portion of the speaker array to the speakers positioned at the opposite end portions of
the speaker array.

8. (*Currently Amended*) The speaker system according to Claim 5, wherein the ~~unit~~ speaker driving circuits implement[[s]] a signal processing ~~in such a manner so~~ that a sound signal of a center channel of the stereo sound source or surround sound source becomes non-directional.

9. (*Currently Amended*) The speaker system according to Claim 5, wherein each of the ~~unit~~ speaker driving circuits has a secondary filter ~~which that~~ filters a sound signal of the center channel of the stereo sound source or surround sound source and ~~a passable the passing~~ frequency band of the secondary filter of each of the ~~unit~~ speaker driving circuits is set ~~so as to~~ increase from the speakers positioned at a peripheral region of the speaker array ~~opposite end-
portions to the speaker or speakers positioned at a central region~~ central portion of the speaker array.

10. (*New*) The speaker system according to Claim 1, wherein the reproduction regions with the smallest number of speakers are located at opposite end portions of the speaker array.

11. (*New*) The speaker system according to Claim 1, wherein the reproduction regions with the smallest number of speakers are located at a central region of the speaker array.

12. (*New*) The speaker system according to Claim 1, wherein the reproduction regions with the smallest number of speakers are located at a central region of the speaker array and at opposite end portions of the speaker array.

13. (*New*) The speaker system according to Claim 1, wherein:

the sound signal processing unit divides the speaker array into left and right reproduction regions for reproducing a left channel, a right channel, and a center channel of a stereo sound source or surround sound source, and

the left and right reproduction regions with the smallest number of speakers are located at a central region of the speaker array and at opposite end portions of the speaker array.